

REMARKS

Claims 11-19 remain present in this application.

The specification, title, abstract, and claims 11-19 have been amended. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Objection to the Title

The title stands objected to as not being descriptive. In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that this objection has been addressed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of any objection to the title are respectfully requested.

Objection to the Abstract

The abstract stands objected to as containing legal phraseology. In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that this objection has been addressed. It is also noted that reference numerals have now been removed from the abstract, to place it in better form. Reconsideration and withdrawal of any objection to the abstract are respectfully requested.

Objection to the Drawings

The drawings stand objected to for certain informalities. Accordingly, a replacement drawing sheet for Fig. 1 is attached

hereto, in which the label "Prior Art" has been added in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Reconsideration and withdrawal of any objection to the drawings are therefore respectfully requested.

Objection to the Specification

The specification stands objected to for not containing headers, and for containing various references to the claims. In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that these objections have been addressed. It is also noted that other minor amendments have been made to the specification to place it in better form. Reconsideration and withdrawal of any objection to the specification are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that the Examiner considers claims 11-19 to be in condition for allowance. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all objections have been addressed. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the present application should now be fully in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

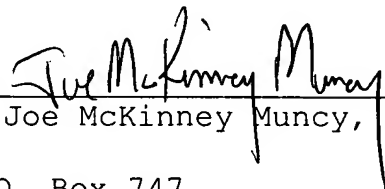
Because the prior art cited by the Examiner has been included merely to show the state of the prior art and has not been utilized to reject the claims, no further comments concerning these documents are considered necessary at this time.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By   
Joe McKinney Muncy, #32,334

KM/asc  
1381-0309P

P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747  
(703) 205-8000

Attachment:     Substitute Specification w/Marked Up Version  
                 Abstract of the Disclosure  
                 Replacement Drawing Sheet

(Rev. 02/12/2004)